

U.S. Embassy Buenos Aires, Argentina
Security Message for U.S. Citizens – Scheduled Protest
December 18, 2012

Dear U.S. Citizen:

A protest march about domestic issues is being coordinated by unions not aligned with the Argentine government. It is anticipated to take place in Buenos Aires on December 19, 2012, beginning at 4:00 p.m. According to the media, the march will start in the area around the Obelisk and advance toward the Plaza de Mayo along Diagonal Norte and Diagonal Sur, and also along Avenida de Mayo. These protests will significantly disrupt the flow of traffic in the Microcentro area. While this activity is focused in Buenos Aires, similar demonstrations may take place in other cities in the country. At this time, the participating unions are not planning any work stoppages. Please continue to monitor local media and be prepared to alter your work and travel schedules over the next week.

Even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and escalate into violence. You should avoid areas of demonstrations, and exercise caution if in the vicinity of any large gatherings, protests, or demonstrations. Review your personal security plans; remain aware of your surroundings, including local events; and monitor local news stations for updates. Maintain a high level of vigilance and take appropriate steps to enhance your personal security and follow instructions of local authorities.

We strongly recommend that U.S. citizens traveling to or residing in Argentina enroll in the Department of State's [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program](#) (STEP). STEP enrollment gives you the latest security updates, and makes it easier for the U.S. embassy or nearest U.S. consulate to contact you in an emergency. If you don't have Internet access, enroll directly with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

Regularly monitor the [State Department's website](#), where you can find current Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and the Worldwide Caution. Read the [Country Specific Information for Argentina](#).

For additional information, refer to "A Safe Trip Abroad" on the State Department's website.

Contact the U.S. embassy or consulate for up-to-date information on travel restrictions. You can also call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free from within the United States and Canada, or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#), and download our free Smart Traveler app, available through [iTunes](#) and the [Android market](#), to have travel information at your fingertips.

The U.S. Embassy in Buenos Aires is located at Avenida Colombia 4300 in the Palermo neighborhood of Buenos Aires (near the Plaza Italia stop on the "D" line subway). The Consular Section is open to the public from 8:30 a.m. to noon and 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except on U.S. and Argentine holidays. The main Embassy switchboard telephone is

(54) (11) 5777-4533. If you are a U.S. citizen in need of urgent assistance, the emergency number for the U.S. Embassy is (54) (11) 5777-4354. Recorded consular information is available at tel. (54) (11) 4514-1830. The main Embassy fax is (54) (11) 5777-4240. The Consular Section fax is (54) (11) 5777-4293. Additional information on Embassy services is available by e-mail at BuenosAires-ACS@state.gov.

American Citizen Services
U.S. Embassy

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Cleared: DCM (ok)
CA/OCS/ACS/WHA:CPJackson (ok)
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DS/TIA/ITA:JMack (ok)
WHA/BSC:JShowell (info)